Seasonal pass tickets

1912. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is kilometres limit fixed for the issue of seasonal pass tickets ;

(b) whether there are any exceptions to these rules, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

(c) whether Government proposes to abolish the kilometres limit for seasonal pass holders; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Season tickets are issued for distances upto 150 kilometres;

(b) Yes, Sir. Season tickets issued for distances more than 150 kilometres prior to 1951 have been continued due to historical reasons;

(c) No, Sir;

(d) Season tickets are issued at highly concessional rates and Railways incur loss in running passenger services.

Improvement of Tourism Industry

1913. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 24th April, 1989 under the caption "Tourism prospects Dim" and the Tourism Department which is providing large scale foreign exchange has been sidelined by the Ministry of Finance by not providing funds to expand the tourism industry in the country;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking for improving the tourism industry which has large scale potential to attract more foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Government has seen the said news item.

Recognising the potential of international tourism, Govt. of India have launched a comprehensive package aimed at diversification and improvement of tourist facilities. Apart from providing a package of incentives for attracting more private investment in the tourism sector, Government has also strengthened publicity campaigns in the overseas markets and has launched programmes to upgrade the level of skilled manpower needed by the industry. For this purpose the Planning Commission has made a substantial increase in the Plan allocation in favour of the Department of Tourism during the 7th Plan period.

Installation of Statues of Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi in Allahabad

1914. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is no statue